

**REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

**VIA ECFS**

June 27, 2016

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**RE: REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT**  
**WC Docket No. 14-58 - ETC Annual Reports and Certifications**

Request that Information Submitted to the Commission be Withheld from Public Inspection Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §0.459 and 5 U.S.C. §552(b)(4): Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan Progress Report included in FCC Form 481

Confidential Information – Subject to Protective Order Before the Federal Communications Commission

Dear Ms. Dortch:

In accordance with the annual reporting requirements of 47 C.F.R. §§54.313 and 54.422, Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. (the Cooperative), Study Area Code 382247 is submitting a completed FCC Form 481 to the Commission via its Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) in WC Docket No. 14-58. *The version of the Cooperative's FCC Form 481 submitted via ECFS is a redacted version of the filing that contains no confidential information.*

The Cooperative, by its authorized representative, hereby requests confidential treatment of two attachments to its FCC Form 481: (1) the five-year service quality improvement plan progress report and (2) the financial annual report, both of which were redacted in the ECFS submission. The request for confidential treatment of the five-year plan progress report is being made pursuant to Section 0.459 of the Commission's rules and Exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The request for confidential treatment of the financial annual report is being made pursuant to the FCC's

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March 22, 2016 *Protective Order* in WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 14-58. These attachments contain competitively sensitive data that Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. maintains as confidential and does not normally make available to the public. Release of this information would have a substantial negative impact on the Cooperative.

**Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan Progress Report**

Pursuant to Section 0.459 of the Commission's rules and Exemption 4 of FOIA, Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. requests that the text and data extracted from its five-year service quality improvement plan progress report be withheld from public inspection because it contains competitively sensitive commercial and financial information that the Cooperative maintains as confidential. Public availability of this information would have a substantial negative impact on the Cooperative.

In accordance with Section 0.459 of the Commission's rules, the following information is provided in support of this request:

(1) Identification of the specific information for which confidential treatment is sought:

Attachment to Line 112 of FCC Form 481 – Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan Progress Report. Specifically, confidential treatment is sought for all information in the five-year plan progress report related to the Cooperative's access line counts, existing broadband capabilities, and current and planned financial investments in its network that will improve service quality, service coverage, and/or service capacity for its customers.

(2) Identification of the Commission proceeding in which the information was submitted or a description of the circumstances giving rise to the submission:

The information was submitted in WC Docket No. 14-58 as an attachment to FCC Form 481- the Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form. Section 100 of FCC Form 481 requires incumbent local exchange carriers receiving high cost support to attach a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.313(a)(1).

(3) Explanation of the degree to which the information is commercial or financial, or contains a trade secret or is privileged:

The five-year service quality improvement plan progress report contains granular information on the Cooperative's access line counts and/or existing broadband capabilities as well as recent and planned capital investments in its network to improve service quality, service coverage, and/or service capacity. It also contains a

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map of the Cooperative's service area detailing progress toward meeting broadband deployment targets at the wire center level. This is closely guarded, privileged information that the Cooperative does not make publicly available.

- (4) Explanation of the degree to which the information concerns a service that is subject to competition:

Broadband is subject to increasing competition in the areas served by rural, rate-of-return incumbent local exchange carriers (RLECs). Virtually all RLECs face competition from one or more wireless Internet service providers. Most RLECs also face competition from at least one other wireline broadband provider, such as a larger cable company, who will typically seek to "cherry pick" the lower cost portions of the study area. In addition, all RLECs face competition throughout their territories from satellite broadband providers.

- (5) Explanation of how disclosure of the information could result in substantial competitive harm:

Disclosure of the information contained in the five-year plan progress report would provide competitors with detailed, granular information regarding the Cooperative's access line count, its existing broadband capabilities, and its recent and planned network investments that improve service quality, coverage, and/or capacity for subscribers. This would give competitors valuable confidential information with which to develop their own strategies for investing in the service area, thereby bringing substantial competitive harm to the Cooperative.

- (6) Identification of any measures taken by the submitting party to prevent unauthorized disclosure:

The Cooperative has continually treated the extracted information in its five-year plan progress report as confidential and carefully controls the information to protect it from competitors. Access to the information is limited to employees that require it and to non-employees with confidentiality obligations such as lenders, consultants, auditors, and attorneys. In addition, when such information is required to be submitted to a state regulatory authority it has been filed as confidential information, not available to the public.

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- (7) Identification of whether the information is available to the public and the extent of any previous disclosure of the information to third parties:

The redacted information in the five-year plan progress report is not available to the public, and third-party access is limited as described in (6) above.

- (8) Justification of the period during which the submitting party asserts that material should not be available for public disclosure:

The Cooperative requests that the extracted information be withheld from public inspection indefinitely. The information in the five-year plan progress report details the Cooperative's most recent network upgrades in relation to its previously submitted service quality improvement plan. It may also contain upcoming planned network improvements during the five-year period ending 2019. This information would provide a very useful baseline for competitors for several years beyond that period.

- (9) Any other information that the party seeking confidential information treatment believes may be useful in assessing whether its request for confidentiality should be granted:

Exemption 4 of FOIA shields from public disclosure commercial or financial information obtained from a person that is privileged or confidential. Based on the responses provided above, the information in question satisfies this test.

**Financial Annual Report**

Section 3005 of FCC Form 481 requires a privately-held rate-of-return carrier receiving high cost support to attach a full and complete annual report of the company's financial condition and operations pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.313(f)(2). Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. seeks confidential treatment of its financial annual report pursuant to the March 22, 2016 *Protective Order* in WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 14-58.<sup>1</sup> The *Protective Order* specifically covers information filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.313(f)(2).

Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. is providing to the Office of the Secretary, under seal, this cover letter and the Form 481 filing which includes the confidential information that is being requested to be withheld from public inspection.

<sup>1</sup> *Connect America Fund, ETC Annual Reports and Certifications*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 14-58, Protective Order, DA 16-296 (rel. Mar. 22, 2016).

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Each page of the five-year service quality improvement plan progress report confidential submission bears the legend, "CONFIDENTIAL – NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE."

Each page of the financial annual report confidential submission bears the legend, "CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION."

The confidential information has also been submitted to the Universal Service Administrative Company through its E-File system as attachments to the FCC Form 481.

In the filing submitted via ECFS, all pages containing confidential information bear the legend "REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION."

This cover letter includes no confidential information and the text is the same in both the non-redacted and redacted versions except for the confidentiality markings.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Eric Votaw, Senior Manager for  
Moss Adams LLP

EV/ch

Enclosures

cc: Remi Sun, Missouri Valley Communications, Inc.

FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Report  
Data Collection Form

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FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010> Study Area Code 382247

<015> Study Area Name NEMONT TEL COOP - ND

<020> Program Year 2017

<030> Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data Eric N. Votaw

<035> Contact Telephone Number: 2099556116 ext.  
Number of the person identified in data line <030>

<039> Contact Email Address: eric.votaw@mossadams.com

Form Type 54.313 and 54.422

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**(100) Service Quality Improvement Reporting  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010> Study Area Code	382247
<015> Study Area Name	NEWMONT TEL COOP - ND
<020> Program Year	2017
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Votaw
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2039556116 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	eric.votaw@mosisadams.com

<110> Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC?	(yes / no) <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>
If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing §54.202(a) "5 year plan" filed with the FCC?	(yes / no) <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>

If your answer to Line <111> is yes, please file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service.

<112> Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your company is a CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.

Name of Attached Document

Please select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan pursuant to §54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| <113> Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets   | Yes |
| <114> Report how much universal service (USF) support was received   | Yes |
| <115> How much (USF) was used to improve service quality and how support was used to improve service quality   | Yes |
| <116> How much (USF) was used to improve service coverage and how support was used to improve service coverage | Yes |
| <117> How much (USF) was used to improve service capacity and how support was used to improve service capacity | Yes |
| <118> Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.                | Yes |

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(400) Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers  
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	382247
<015>	Study Area Name	NEMONT TEL COOP - ND
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Votaw
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line	2099556116 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line	eric.votaw@mcesadams.com
<hr/> <p>Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report voice complaints (zero or greater) for voice telephony service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize.</p>		
<400>		Offered only fixed voice
<410>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed voice	1 . 0E-4
<420>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile voice	
<hr/> <p>Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report end-user customer complaints (zero or greater) for broadband service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize.</p>		
<430>		Offered only fixed broadband
<440>	Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed broadband	0 . 0
<450>	Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile broadband	

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(500) Compliance With Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules  
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July 2013

<010> Study Area Code	382247
<015> Study Area Name	NEMONT TEL COOP ~ ND
<020> Program Year	2017
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Votaw
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2099556116 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	eric.votaw@mossadams.com
<500> Certify compliance with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules	Yes
<hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">382247ND510.pdf</p> <hr/>	
<510> Descriptive document for Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance	

<010> Study Area Code	382247
<015> Study Area Name	NEMONT TEL COOP - ND
<020> Program Year	2017
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Votaw
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2099556116 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	eric.votaw@mossadams.com
<600> Certify compliance regarding ability to function in emergency situations	Yes
<610> Descriptive document for Functionality in Emergency Situations	382247ND610.pdf

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FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July 2013

<01D>	Study Area Code	3 82247
<01S>	Study Area Name	NEMONT TEL COOP - ND
<02D>	Program Year	2017
<03D>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Yotaw
<03S>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <03D>	2099556116 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <03D>	eric.yotaw@moisadams.com

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<b>(800) Operating Companies Data Collection Form</b>	
FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013	

<010> Study Area Code	382247		
<015> Study Area Name	NEMONT TEL COOP - ND		
<020> Program Year	2017		
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Votaw		
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2099556116 ext.		
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	eric.votaw@mossadams.com		
<810> Reporting Carrier	Missouri Valley Communications, Inc.		
<811> Holding Company	Nemont Telephone Cooperative, Inc.		
<812> Operating Company	Missouri Valley Communications, Inc.		
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<b>Doing Business As Company or Brand Designation</b>			
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Page 12

**(1000) Voice and Broadband Service Rate Comparability  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	382247
<015>	Study Area Name	NEWMONT TEL COOP - ND
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Votaw
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2099556116 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	eric.votaw@mossadams.com

&lt;1000&gt;      Voice services rate comparability certification

Yes

&lt;1010&gt;      Attach detailed description for voice services rate comparability compliance

382247ND1010.pdf

Name of Attached Document

<1020>      Broadband comparability certification  
  
Yes - Pricing is no more than the most recent applicable benchmark announced by the Wireline Competition Bureau

&lt;1030&gt;      Attach detailed description for broadband comparability compliance

382247ND1030.pdf

Name of Attached Document

Page 12

**(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting  
Data Collection Form**

		FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code	382247
<015>	Study Area Name	NEMONT TEL COOP - ND
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Voraw
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	209956116 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	eric.voraw@mosesadams.com

<1100> Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (Y/N)

Yes

<1130> Please select the appropriate response (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g).

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**(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers  
Lifeline  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July2013

<010>	Study Area Code	382247
<015>	Study Area Name	NEMONT TEL COOP - ND
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Votaw
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	209956116 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	eric.votaw@mossadams.com

<1210>	Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans
--------	--

<1220>	Link to Public Website	HTTP://nemont.net/telephone.assistance.php
--------	------------------------	--

Name of Attached Document	
---------------------------	--

“Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCS receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

- <1221> Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers,
- <1222> Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,
- <1223> Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan.

<b>(2000) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation</b>		FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
<b>Data Collection Form</b> <i>Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers</i>		

<010>	Study Area Code	3:8:22:47
<015>	Study Area Name	NEWPORT TEL COOP - ND
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Votaw
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2039956116 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	eric.c.votaw@mossadams.com

Select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e). The information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

#### **Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting**

- <2010>  2nd Year Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)(i) - Note that for the July 1 2016 certification, this applies to Round 2 recipients of Incremental Support
- <2011>  3rd Year Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)(ii) - Note that for the July 1 2016 certification, this applies to Round 1 recipients of Incremental Support
- <2022>  Recipient certifies, representing year two after filing a notice of acceptance of funding pursuant to 54.312(c), that the locations in question are not receiving support under the Broadband Initiatives Program or the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program for projects that will provide broadband with speeds of at least 4 Mbps/1Mbps - 54.313(b)(2)(i). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2023>  The attachment on line 2024 includes a statement of the total amount of capital funding expended in the previous year in meeting Connect America Phase I deployment obligations, accompanied by a list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent. This covers year two - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2024A>  Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?
- <2024B>  Attach list of census blocks indicating where funding was spent in year two - 54.313(b)(2)(ii). Round 2 recipients only.
- <2025A>  Round 1 or Round 2 Recipient of Incremental Support?
- <2025B>  Attach geocoded Information for Phase I milestone reports (Round 1 for year three and Round 2 for year two) - Connect America Fund , WC Docket 10-90, Report and Order, FCC 13-
- <2015>  2016 and future Frozen Support Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4)

Name of Attached Document Listing  
Required Information

Name of Attached Document Listing  
Required Information

(2000) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation (Continued)  
**Data Collection Form**  
*Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers*

FCC Form 481  
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
 July 2013

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**Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)}**

<2016> Certification support used to build broadband

**Connect America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}**

<2017A> Connect America Fund Phase II recipient?

<2017B> Attach information for Phase II - 54.313(e)(1) - list of geocoded locations already meeting the 54.309 public interest obligations at the end of calendar year 2015 and total amount of Phase II support, if any, the price

cap carrier used for capital expenditures in 2015.  
 Attach the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the carrier newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year - 54.313(e)(2)(ii)

<2018> Recipient certifies that it bid on category one telecommunications and Internet access services in response to all FCC Form 470 postings seeking broadband service that meets the connectivity targets for the schools and libraries universal service support program for eligible schools and libraries located within any area in a census block where the carrier is receiving Phase II model-based support, and that such bids were at rates reasonably comparable to rates charged to eligible schools and libraries in urban areas for comparable offerings - 54.313(e)(2)(v)

<2019> Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 40% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2017 - 54.313(e)(3)

<2020> Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 60% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2018 - 54.313(e)(4)

<2021> Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 80% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2019 - 54.313(e)(5)

<2022> Recipient certifies that it offered broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations specified in §54.309 to 100% of its supported locations in the state on December 31, 2020 - 54.313(e)(6)

[Redacted]  
 Name of Attached Document Listing  
 Required Information

[Redacted]  
 Name of Attached Document Listing  
 Required Information

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

<010>	Study Area Code	382247
<015>	Study Area Name	NEMONT TEL COOP - ND
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Votaw
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2099556116 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	eric.votaw@mossadams.com

Complete the items below to note compliance with five year service quality plan (pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.202(a)) and, for privately held carriers, ensuring compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Progress Report on 5 Year Plan  
(3009) Carrier certifies to 54.313(f)(1)(iii)

Yes - Attach Certification

(3010A) Milestone Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)}

382247ND3010.pdf

(3010B) Please Provide Attachment

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3012A) Community Anchor Institutions {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii)}

No - No New Community Anchors

(3012B) Please Provide Attachment

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3013) Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)}

(Yes/No)

 

(3014) If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report

(Yes/No)

 

Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires:

(3015) Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)

(3016) Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

382247ND3017.pdf

(3017) If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3018) If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?

(Yes/No)

 

If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

(3019) Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers

(3020) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

(3021) Management letter and/or audit opinion issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit.

If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

(3022) Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers

(3023) Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant

(3024) Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.

(3025) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

(3026) Attach the worksheet listing required information

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

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**(3005) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation (Continued)**

**Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010>	Study Area Code	382247
<015>	Study Area Name	NEWMONT TEL COOP - ND
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Votaw
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2099561116 ext.
<035>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	eric.votaw@mcseadams.com

**Financial Data Summary**

(3027) Revenue

(3028) Operating Expenses

(3029) Net Income

(3030) Telephone Plant In Service(TPIS)

(3031) Total Assets

(3032) Total Debt

(3033) Total Equity

(3034) Dividends



**REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**(4005) Rural Broadband Experiment Additional Documentation  
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	382247
<015>	Study Area Name	NEMONT TEL COOP - ND
<020>	Program Year	2017
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Votaw
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2099556116 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	eric.votaw@mossadams.com

**4005 Rural Broadband Experiment**

Authorized Rural Broadband Experiment (RBE) recipients must address the certification for public interest obligations, provide a list of newly served community anchor institutions, and provide a list of locations where broadband has been deployed.

**Public Interest Obligations – FCC 14-98 (paragraphs 26-29, 78)**

Please address Line 4001 regarding compliance with the Commission's public interest obligations. All RBE participants must provide a response to Line 4001.

**4001.** Recipient certifies that it is offering broadband to the identified locations meeting the requisite public interest obligations consistent with the category for which they were selected, including broadband speed, latency, usage capacity, and rates that are reasonably comparable to rates for comparable offerings in urban areas?

**Community Anchor Institutions – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 79)**

**4003a.** RBE participants must provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which they newly deployed broadband service in the preceding calendar year. On this line, please respond (yes – attach new community anchors, no – no new anchors) to indicate whether this list will be provided.

If yes to 4003A, please provide a response for 4003B.

**4003b.** Provide the number, names and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the recipient newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

**Broadband Deployment Locations – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 80)**

**4004a.** Attach a list of geocoded locations to which broadband has been deployed as of the June 1st immediately preceding the July 1st filing deadline for the FCC Form 481.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information \_\_\_\_\_

**4004b.** Attach evidence demonstrating that the recipient is meeting the relevant public service obligations for the identified locations. Materials must at least detail the pricing, offered broadband speed and data usage allowances available in the relevant geographic area.

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information \_\_\_\_\_

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**Certification - Reporting Carrier  
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010> Study Area Code	382247
<015> Study Area Name	NEMONT TEL COOP - ND
<020> Program Year	2017
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Votaw
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2099556116 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	eric.votaw@mossadams.com

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:**

<b>Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients</b>	
I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	
Signature of Authorized Officer:	Date
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

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<b>Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form</b>	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010> Study Area Code	382247
<015> Study Area Name	NEMONT TEL COOP - ND
<020> Program Year	2017
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Eric N. Votaw
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	2099556116 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	eric.votaw@mossadams.com

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:**

<b>Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier</b>	
I certify that (Name of Agent) <u>Moss Adams, LLP</u> is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent: Moss Adams, LLP	
Name of Reporting Carrier: NEMONT TEL COOP - ND	
Signature of Authorized Officer: CERTIFIED ONLINE	
Printed name of Authorized Officer: Remi Sun	
Title or position of Authorized Officer: CFO	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer: 4067832200 ext.	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 382247      Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2016	
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:**

<b>Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier</b>	
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier: NEMONT TEL COOP - ND	
Name of Authorized Agent Firm: Moss Adams, LLP	
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: CERTIFIED ONLINE	
Name of Authorized Agent Employee: Eric N. Votaw	
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: Senior Manager	
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: 2099556116 ext.	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 382247      Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2016	
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

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Attachments

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

LINE 112 – Five Year Service Quality Improvement Progress Report

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

LINE 300 UNFILLED SERVICE REQUESTS

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

**Annual Reporting for High-Cost Recipients  
47 C.F.R. §54.313  
Missouri Valley Communications, Inc.**

**§54.313(a)(5) - COMPLIANCE WITH SERVICE QUALITY STANDARDS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION RULES**

**Voice Network**

Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. (“MVC”) is in compliance with consumer protection rules of the Federal Communications Commission and the North Dakota Public Utilities Commission for voice service. At this time the North Dakota Public Utilities Commissions has not "adopted" the FCC QoS Standards. MVC complies with all FCC and North Dakota Public Service Commission protection rules and reporting requirements, which include; annual Do-Not-Call rules/notifications to subscribers, Opt-Out letters sent annually to customers, filing of Annual RCCCI certification for Accessibility, and new employee and annual employee/company CPNI/Red Flag Training and certification. An explanation of our CPNI practices and FAQ's, as well as other consumer protection information and where to file complaints can be found at [www.nemont.net/consumer-info.php](http://www.nemont.net/consumer-info.php).

**Broadband Network**

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(5) and or 47 C.F.R. § 54.422(b)(3) MVC is in compliance with applicable FCC Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules. MVC trains staff on applicable rules for broadband services issues on an annual basis. In addition MVC has placed on its website at [www.nemont.net](http://www.nemont.net) its network practices and policies regarding Open Internet Policy.

MVC also outlines its rates, terms, and conditions under which MVC offers Broadband service in NECA Tariff #5 to Internet Service Providers (“ISP”). The Tariff explains customer rights and obligations, customer service, dispute resolution, deposits, billing and payment options, disconnection of service as well as cancellation of service options. Public inspection of NECA Tariff #5 can be found on NECA’s website. Retail DSL rates, terms, and conditions for retail services are provided by the ISP.

**Annual Reporting for High-Cost Recipients  
47 C.F.R. §54.313  
Missouri Valley Communications, Inc.**

**§54.313(a)(6) – ABILITY TO FUNCTION IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS**

**Voice Network**

Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality of voice and broadband services without an external power source. Buildings and Central Offices are equipped with UPS using battery backup and standalone generators. Access Nodes are equipped with 8 hours of battery backup and plug in's for portable generators. The Company is able to reroute voice, internet and cellular traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations. Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. is fully protected for all voice, internet and cellular traffic which will fail over to the redundant path in case of an emergency or maintenance. All network transport is designed and installed in a redundant, geo diverse, ring architecture that will automatically fail over in case of a disruption in service. This includes redundant routing / switching hardware to facilitate a seamless transfer of traffic.

**Broadband Network**

Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality of voice and broadband services without an external power source. Buildings and Central Offices are equipped with UPS using battery backup and standalone generators. Access Nodes are equipped with 8 hours of battery backup and plug in's for portable generators. The Company is able to reroute voice, internet and cellular traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations. Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. is fully protected for all voice, internet and cellular traffic which will fail over to the redundant path in case of an emergency or maintenance. All network transport is designed and installed in a redundant, geo diverse, ring architecture that will automatically fail over in case of a disruption in service. This includes redundant routing / switching hardware to facilitate a seamless transfer of traffic.



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FCC Form 481  
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819  
July 2013

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**REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

**Annual Reporting for High-Cost Recipients  
47 C.F.R. §54.313  
Missouri Valley Communications, Inc.**

**§54.313(a)(9) - COMPLIANCE WITH TRIBAL OUTREACH AND LICENSING REQUIREMENTS**

Missouri Valley Communications (“MVC”), Study Area Code 382247, provides services to some Turtle Mountain tribal allotted land in North Dakota. MVC has requested meetings to discuss additional requirements listed in the USF/ICC Transformation Order regarding Tribal Engagements; however, MVC has not received any responses from Turtle Mountain Tribal officials.

**Annual Reporting for High-Cost Recipients  
47 C.F.R. §54.313  
Missouri Valley Communications, Inc.**

**§54.313(a)(10)- CERTIFICATION: PRICING OF COMPANY'S VOICE SERVICES IS NO MORE THAN TWO STANDARD DEVIATIONS ABOVE THE APPLICABLE NATIONAL AVERAGE URBAN RATE**

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313 (a) (10 ) Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. (“MVC”) is in compliance with the requirement that voice services is no more than two standard deviations above the national average urban rate for voice service of \$41.07 as specified in Public Notice DA 16-362 issued on April 5, 2016. MVC’s current total local end-user rate<sup>1</sup> as follows:

<u>Exchange</u>	<u>Rate Explanation</u>
Ambrose:	\$16.00 (which includes a local fee of \$16.00, and no mandated state fees or mandatory extended area)
Fortuna:	\$16.00 (which includes a local fee of \$16.00, and no mandated state fees or mandatory extended area)
East Westby:	\$21.00 (which includes a local fee of \$21.00, and no mandated state fees or mandatory extended area)
Williston:	\$19.39 (which includes a local fee of \$18.12 and mandatory extended area service charges of \$1.27)

None of the rate plans listed is above the standard deviation as specified in the USF/ICC Transformation Order.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Local End User Rate as defined in USF/ICC Transformation Order 26 FCC Rcd at 17751, Para. 238

<sup>2</sup> USF/ICC Transformation Order, 26 FCC Rcd at 17694, Para. 84 (footnote included) “The standard deviation is a measure of dispersion. The sample standard deviation is the square root of the sample variance. The sample variance is calculated as the sum of the squared deviations of the individual observations in the sample of data from the sample average divided by the total number of observations in the sample minus one. In a normal distribution, about 68 percent of the observations lie within one standard deviation above and below the average and about 95 percent of the observations lie within two standard deviations above and below the average.”

**Annual Reporting for High-Cost Recipients  
47 C.F.R. §54.313  
Missouri Valley Communications, Inc.**

**§54.313(a)(12)- CERTIFYING THAT COMPANY'S BROADBAND SERVICE IS NO MORE THAN THE APPLICABLE BENCHMARK OR NO MORE THAN THE NON-PROMOATIONAL PRICE CHARGED FOR A COMPARABLE FIXED WIRELINE SERVICE IN URBAN AREAS**

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313 (a) (12) Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. charges a residential rate of \$45.00 for broadband providing 10 Mbps download, 1 Mbps upload, and an unlimited usage allowance. This rate is lower than \$75.20 which is the 2016 reasonable comparability benchmark for the same offering established by the Wireline Competition Bureau.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Results of 2016 Urban Rate Survey for Fixed Voice and Broadband Services and Posting of Survey Data and Explanatory Notes*, Public Notice, WC Docket No. 10-90, DA 16-362 (rel. April 6, 2016).

**Annual Reporting for High-Cost Recipients  
47 C.F.R. §54.202  
Missouri Valley Communications, Inc.**

**§54.202(a) – Milestone Certification**

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a) Missouri Valley Communications, Inc. (“MVC”) provides this certification that it is taking reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request broadband speeds of at least 4 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream, with latency suitable for real-time applications, including Voice over Internet Protocol, and usage capacity that is reasonably comparable to offerings in urban areas as determined in an annual survey as specified in Public Notice DA 15-470, and that requests for such service are met within a reasonable amount of time. Details for how for how MVC is meeting its obligations for broadband goals and required obligations are specified within the FCC Form 481 annual filing.

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

LINE 3017– RUS Annual Report

REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION